



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Application No.: 10/809,120 (Examiner: Robert L.
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(Applicant: H. Frederick
(Bowman (Art Unit: 3735
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(Filing Date: 03/24/2004 (Applicant's Docket: TTI-03

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) CLAIMING BENEFIT OF PRIOR-FILED APPLICATIONS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The applications identified below are prior-filed applications for which the applicant claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) and 35 USC 120.

Provisional Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of the United States provisional application listed below:

| APPLICATION SERIAL NUMBER | FILING DATE |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 60/458,100 | 03/26/2003 |

U.S. Priority Claim

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC 120 of the United States applications listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States applications in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 USC 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as

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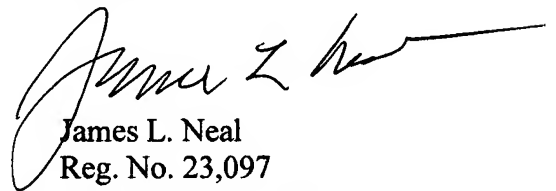
defined in 37 C.F.R.1.56(a) which occurred between the filing dates of the prior applications and the filing date of this application:

| SERIAL NUMBER | FILING DATE | RELATIONSHIP | STATUS |
|---------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 10/364,773 | 02/11/2003 | CONTINUATION OF SERIAL NO. 09/733,595 | Patent No. 6,913,576 |
| 09/733,595 | 12/08/2000 | DIVISION OF SERIAL NO. 08/946,366 | Patent No. 6,565,516 |
| 08/946,366 | 10/07/1997 | DIVISION OF SERIAL NO. 08/106,068 | Patent No. 6,203,501 |
| 08/106,068 | 08/13/1993 | ORIGINAL FILING | Patent No. 5,797,398 |

Benefit of the above applications Serial Nos. 09/773,595, 08/946,366 and 08/106,068 was not timely claimed under 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2)(ii). The entire delay in claiming the benefit of these prior filed applications is unintentional.

The surcharge required by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(t) is authorized by separate paper filed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



James L. Neal
Reg. No. 23,097
Tel. (479) 203-1155
jneal@hemedex.com

June 29, 2007